

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (RSFSR)	REPORT		25X1
SUBJECT	Railroad Bridge over the Irkut River near Irkutsk	DATE DISTR.	2 July 1954	
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This is UNEVALUATED
Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Location

1. The double-track railroad bridge over the Irkut River lies about one to one-and one-half kilometers from the confluence of the Irkut with the Angara River. The large road bridge over the Angara near Irkutsk is a good landmark; this bridge lies about two to three kilometers east-southeast of the railroad bridge. The Trans-Siberian Railroad line runs over the bridge.

Technical Details (See sketch on page 3)

2. The following details are given:
 - a. Length of the bridge: about 150 meters.
 - b. Width of the bridge: sufficient for two Russian-gauge tracks.
 - c. Number of arches: three.
 - d. Construction of the arches: iron construction with oval-shaped upper girder.
 - e. Construction and number of piers: two granite piers and two granite abutments.
 - f. The track: two Russian-gauge tracks with heavy rails, mounted on wooden sleepers made of larch wood. At one side of the bridge is a footpath for the railroad personnel and the guard.
 - g. Width of the river: at low-water level, in May and June, the river is 150 meters wide near the bridge and 200-250 meters wide below and above the bridge.
 - h. Depth of the river: at low-water level, three to four meters, at high-water level, five to six meters.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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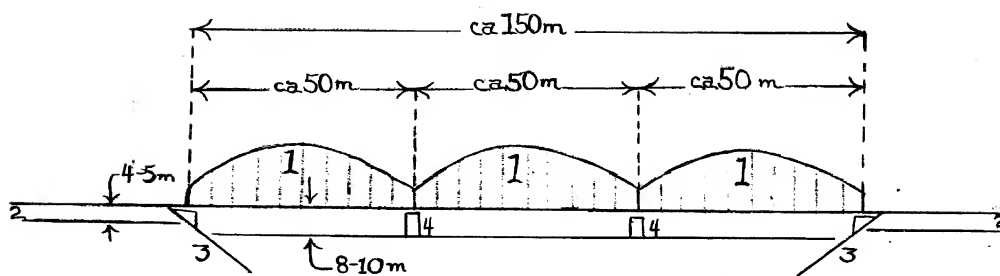
- i. Reckoned from the upper edge of the rails, the water levels are:
at low-water level about ten meters below the bridge, at high-water level about eight meters below the bridge.
- j. Angle of the embankment on both banks: near the bridge about 30°, above and below the bridge about 15°.
- k. Condition of the river bed: the river bed consists of firm rock, on top of which are rocks and rubble.
- l. Approaches to the bridge: the railroad line runs on an embankment about four to five meters high on both sides of the bridge: the slopes near the bridge are paved. The wooden sleepers are bedded in stone chips.
- m. Guards: the bridge is permanently guarded by two sentries armed with machine carbines, one at each end of the bridge. During the night, the piers and abutments are lit up. The approach to the abutments is closed by barbed wire. The guards belong to the infantry units stationed in Irkutsk. The nearest militia station is in the building of the Irkutsk passenger station.
- n. Equipment for destroying the bridge: it is believed that there are detonation chambers in the two middle piers.
- o. Traffic on the bridge: the entire traffic of the Trans-Siberian Railroad line runs over the bridge. The majority of the freight trains have four-axle pullman freight cars with a maximum load capacity of 60 tons. When trains are crossing the bridge, the speed is only slightly decreased.
- p. Traffic on the river: the Irkut River is not navigable and can only be used by fishing boats and by rafts during the high-water period of May-June.

1. Comment: The bridge is both a road and railroad bridge.

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Sketch of the Railroad Bridge over the Irkut River near Irkutsk



- Key to the Sketch
1. Arches of iron construction.
 2. Railroad embankment.
 3. Paved slopes.
 4. Granite piers.

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